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August 17, 2004

RECEIVED
AUG 25 2004
M. L.
MANAGEMENT
SIB

Mr. Thomas J. Litwiler
Fletcher & Sippel, LLC
29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2875

RE: Docket No. AB-875X
R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Bardstown Line – Discontinuance Exemption in
Johnson, Magoffin and Breathitt Counties, Kentucky

Docket No. AB-876X
R.J. Corman Equipment Company, LLC – Abandonment Exemption in
Johnson, Magoffin and Breathitt Counties, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Litwiler:

I have reviewed your Environmental/Historic Report of July 29, 2004 regarding the above Discontinuance and Abandonment Exemptions. Your report states that water quality effects of the abandonment should be minimal. The Division of Conservation reiterates its original response emphasizing the importance of controlling erosion and sedimentation during earth-disturbing activities if this project requires such. We recommend best management practices (BMP's) be utilized to prevent nonpoint source water pollution. Since the rail line either crosses or is adjacent to several perennial and intermittent streams, the water quality and aquatic habitat of these streams could be adversely affected. The manual, Best Management Practices for Construction Activities, contains information on the kinds of BMP's most appropriate and is available through the Breathitt, Johnson, or Magoffin County Conservation Districts and the Division of Conservation.

If you have additional questions or if I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at (502) 564-2184. Mr. Steve Coleman, Director of the Division of Conservation may be reached at (502) 564-3080.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Bush, P.G.
Commissioner

cc: ✓ Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, NW, Room 504
Washington, DC 20423-0001